

COUNTRY Poland REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Polish troops and offices in Cosel, Schoenau, Goldberg, Kolo and Lubliniec 25X1A

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED price [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 23 January 1953 25X1A

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. Cosel:

[REDACTED] a Polish infantry unit was stationed at a barracks installation about 500 meters south-southwest of the main railroad station in Cosel (Kozle, P 51/X 98) and west of ul. Piastowska which led into the town. This installation consisted of three red three-story buildings, about 60 meters long, had a brick wall, about 2 meters high, in the east, and was partially surrounded by a wire fence. The strength of the unit was estimated at about 120 troops of older age classes. The soldiers wore caps with red bands and black visors with yellow borders and were armed with carbines, submachine guns and one light machine gun. The only vehicle observed was horse-drawn.

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2. [REDACTED] since 1 January 1951, the period of service with the labor service (SP) was six months and that after that period it was possible to continue as an instructor. Daily service consisted of eight hours work and two hours of military training and, on certain days, political instruction and military training.

3. [REDACTED] source learned that the 1928 and 1929 classes would be discharged in the fall of 1952; the majority of the 1930 class would be inducted in October 1951, and the others in the spring of 1952; and the 1931 class would be inducted in the course of 1952. Physically fit

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1927-class men, who had served with the German armed forces or the German labor service, were examined in May 1952 and were scheduled to be inducted four months later.¹

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Schoenau and Goldberg:

4. [REDACTED] Schoenau on the Katsbach River (O 52/G 79) quartered no troops. Since 1950, nine trucks, driven by Soviet soldiers, passed the town daily, including Sunday, toward Hirschberg (O 51/G 68), coming from the direction of Goldberg (O 52/B 71). These trucks were empty when going in the direction of Hirschberg in the morning, while they returned with canvas-covered loads in the evening.

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5. [REDACTED] no Polish or Soviet troops were in Goldberg. The UB district office was on the southwest edge of the town on the west side of a road running southeast from the direction of the railroad station.

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Kolo:

6. [REDACTED] a Polish anti-partisan unit of at least 50, known to the population by the name of Pluton Operacyjny (phonetic spelling) (Operational Group), was quartered at the former Gestapo building, a four-story building on the south bank of the Warta River, about 300 meters northwest of the northern road bridge in Kolo (Q 53/O 38). The commanding officer of the unit was a first lieutenant or a captain; the troops, who were about 20 to 35 years of age, wore red service color, were armed with Soviet submachine guns, 3 light machine guns, 3 Maxim-model heavy machine guns and had 3 Studebaker-type trucks. This unit was employed at regular intervals to fight partisans in the Kolo region and closely co-operated with the UB and the militia.
7. The UB district command, estimated at about 30 men wearing red service color, was quartered in a four-story building about 200 meters south of the quarters of the anti-partisan unit, just north of the southern branch of the Warta River, and was equipped with Soviet submachine guns, some light machine guns and four motor vehicles.
8. The MO headquarters, about 30 men, was quartered in a four-story building in the center of the town. The militia men wore bluish-gray uniforms with high-necked collars and blue collar patches, and had flat caps with blue ribbons. When on duty, they wore a metal insignia on the left side of their breast.
9. A Soviet communication detail of about 20, under the command of an officer, was quartered in a three-story private house which was located on the northwest edge of the town, about 500 meters south of the main railroad station and had a flag pole with the hammer and sickle flag in front. This unit had submachine guns with round magazines, 2 light machine guns with disk-shaped magazines and 2 light trucks. It was responsible for the maintenance of the Soviet telephone line running through the town. This overhead telephone line, consisting of four bare wires fixed to poles, came from the direction of Poznan (P 53/X 26), ran along the east side of the road to Wloclawek (Q 53/J 73) and continued on the south side of the road to Kutno (Q 53/O 39).

Lubliniec:

10. [REDACTED] a Polish light motorized artillery unit was quartered in a barracks installation, which was partially located in a wooded area, on the south edge of Lubliniec (Q 51/T 31) and just east of a side street

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running south from the west section of the town. The installation was comprised of 5 four-story buildings, one more than 100 meters long, a three-story administration building, a riding shed, a large garage for motor vehicles and two other four-story buildings. A Polish infantry unit had been quartered there until early 1950. The artillery unit wore red cap ribbons, had rubber-tired guns of about 70-mm caliber, with pear-shaped muzzle brakes and protective shields. The weapons were drawn by jeeps or light trucks which carried the gun crews of about 5 men. Up to 6 guns were seen at a time.

11. The UB unit was quartered in a blind alley in the building of the former Finance Office, about 100 meters south of the center of the town.
12. An MO office was on the northwest side of the "Ring" (square), about 50 meters east of the Roman Catholic church.

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1.  Comment. The situation concerning induction and discharge is still unclear. Other reports indicated that the 1928 class had served for three years, which would be confirmed by this information. It is believed that most of the 1931 class men were inducted in the fall of 1951. It appears probable that the first draftees of the 1933 class were inducted in the fall of 1952 because available information indicated that draftees of the 1932 class were inducted in the spring of 1952. This would be in accordance with the Soviet system.

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